

# HONORING THE COMMITMENT AND DEDICATION OF AMERICA'S TEACHERS

(Mr. BOOZMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of legislation that honors the commitment and dedication of our Nation's teachers.

Today under Republican leadership the House is scheduled to take up two important education reauthorization bills that highlight our support for America's teachers. The Ready to Teach Act of 2003 and the Teacher Recruitment and Retention Act are two important bills that will help ensure that there is a quality teacher in every classroom, and that they are rewarded for their service.

As a former school board member and parent of three public school graduates, I have seen firsthand how hard our teachers work. It is only fair, then, that we create an environment that encourages and rewards their dedication.

Mr. Speaker, our children are blessed to have some wonderful teachers who are committed to their growth; however, we must ensure that these great people have incentives to continue to teach our children. These two bills are a step in the right direction, and I look forward to casting a vote of support for our teachers today.

## THE TEACHER RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION ACT

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I want to express how fortunate I feel today. We have the opportunity to assist an extremely important profession that is often overlooked: teachers. I have seen firsthand the difficulties and challenges these dedicated professionals face since my wife Roxanne is a teacher in Lexington District 2.

Today thanks to the leadership of the gentleman from Ohio (Chairman BOEHNER) of the Committee on Education and the Workforce, the House will vote to increase loan forgiveness to a group of teachers that are desperately needed in our country's rural and urban areas. Math, science and special ed teachers who commit to teach 5 years in a low-income school will receive up to \$17,500 in loan forgiveness through H.R. 438, the Teacher Recruitment and Retention Act.

I agree with President Bush that we must ensure all students receive a quality education. I urge my colleagues to support passage of the Teacher Recruitment and Retention Act.

In conclusion, God bless our troops.

# REPUBLICANS GETTING THINGS DONE FOR AMERICA

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, when the Republicans took over the White House, the Senate and the House, the critics in this town came out of the woodwork, which does not take much to rile them up, but they said they are never going to get anything done. The first year in office Mr. Bush passed No Child Left Behind, a great bipartisan education reform package; this year taken on a world leadership role to liberate Iraq from the oppression of Saddam Hussein and make it possible to inspect for weapons of mass destruction; and now we are leading Iraq towards democracy. We have also passed economic relief in the form of tax relief for small businesses, for families and for farmers, something that will turn the economy around. And then earlier last month we passed Medicare reform with a prescription drug benefit.

We have other things that we are going to do for medicine. We are going to take on malpractice reform. It has already passed in the House. The other body is debating on it very soon. We are passing in the House health savings accounts so that people could set up a medical savings-type account approach to healthcare. We are taking on lots of new initiatives, and so the critics, they are always going to be here in Washington, DC., but if we look at the scorecard, it has been a very solid record.

Republicans in the House, Republicans in the Senate, Republicans at the White House are getting things done for the American people. We welcome the Democrats to join us. We do not want this to be a partisan show. We want bipartisan ideas because what this is about is not a better Republican Party, but a better America, and we need both parties and all people to participate.

## PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2211, READY TO TEACH ACT OF 2003

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 310 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution as follows:

### H. RES. 310

*Resolved*, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2211) to reauthorize title II of the Higher Education Act of 1965. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-

minute rule. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and the Workforce now printed in the bill. The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. All points of order against the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute are waived. No amendment to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such amendments are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). The gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. MYRICK) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, for purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purposes of debate only.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the Committee on Rules met and granted a structured rule for H.R. 2211, Ready to Teach Act of 2003. This is a very fair rule. We made five out of the eight amendments offered in order, and four of them are Democrat amendments. The Ready to Teach Act seeks to meet the call of the No Child Left Behind Act to place a highly qualified teacher in every classroom. It makes improvements to the Higher Education Act that will increase the quality of our Nation's teacher preparation programs.

I would like to commend the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGREY) for his work on the Ready to Teach Act. I would also like to thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. BOEHLERT); the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BOEHNER), chairman of the Committee on Education and the Workforce; and the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER), ranking member, for their continuing efforts to improve all aspects of our country's higher education system.

As we work to place highly qualified teachers in education classrooms across the Nation, I am particularly pleased that this legislation allows for